

# CMA Team ventures through Afghanistan

Story by Capt. Robert Shultz  
321<sup>st</sup> Civil Affairs Brigade

**MARUFF VALLEY**, Afghanistan—A cloud of dust and a hearty “High Ho, Silver” was on the minds of the “Lone Ranger” Civil Military Affairs Team as they proceeded across the trails of the Maruff Valley. The “Rangers” had a setting that provided all the makes of a good Western adventure minus the white horse.

The “Rangers,” comprised of Coalition Special Operations Forces, members of the Afghan National Army and the 321<sup>st</sup> Civil Affairs Brigade Medical Team, pressed on to complete another Cooperative Medical Assistance visit for the inhabitants of war-torn Afghanistan. Like the rangers of old, everyone in the team knew that to make a difference, you must take chances.

Chances definitely characterized operations the team conducted. The Maruff Valley, located in the far eastern section of the Kandahar Province, is only a few kilometers from the Pakistan Border where, just a short while earlier, the Pakistan Army had been conducting operations to deny sanctuary to Taliban Forces.

The CMA operation, conducted over an eight-day period, was highly successful. More



Courtesy Photo

*Capt. Robert Schultz provides veterinary care during a Cooperative Medical Assistance visit.*

than 1,100 people and nearly 2,000 animals were provided medical or preventative treatment by the team. Care provided included administering of medication to improve longevity and nutritional supplements for the men, women and children. For the livestock, vaccinations and deworming medications were provided to ensure healthy production throughout the winter

months ahead.

The villagers were a little leery of the first of the American forces entering their village. The CMA team members were the first American troops the villagers had come in contact with. A

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# Homeland defense effort taking off, officials say

Story by Jim Garamone  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** – In its short existence, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense has established good working relationships with all homeland security players, said one of the office’s top officials.

Peter Verga, principal deputy assistant defense secretary for homeland defense, said the relationship among law enforcement agencies, the new Department of Homeland Security, the newly operational U.S. Northern Command and his office are helping to make the United States more secure.

The setup could have been a disaster, with competing lines of authority and conflicting missions. Instead, it has been a collegial exercise in

which all players are working together to formulate plans and processes to protect the United States and its citizens, he said.

Verga explained the differences between DoD’s homeland defense mission and that of the Homeland Security Department.

“We have a national strategy for homeland security, which is the protection of the (United States) from terrorist attacks, the reduction of vulnerability from terrorist attacks, and the mitigation and recovery from terrorist attacks, should they occur,” he said. “That mission belongs to the Department of Homeland Security.

“In DoD,” he continued, “we undertake homeland defense, which is the traditional military defense of United States people, U.S. territory (and)

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# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



**Khalid Shaikh Mohammed after he was captured in March.**

## U.S. officials say 9/11 mastermind killed Pearl

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. officials say they believe Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the alleged mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, killed Daniel Pearl, *The Wall Street Journal* reporter who was kidnapped and slain in Pakistan.

Pearl, 38, the newspaper's South Asia bureau chief, was taken hostage in January 2002 and killed. A videotape of the killing was distributed, but the face of the person who slit Pearl's throat cannot be seen.

U.S. officials declined to say why they are convinced that Mohammed killed Pearl. But they point to testimony in the September 2002 trial of some in Pakistan accused of involvement in the case that indicated Mohammed did the killing.

A U.S. official said Mohammed, a prisoner of the CIA at an undisclosed location, will not be tried in the killing "anytime real soon" but could not rule out the possibility at some time in the future. He was captured in March in Pakistan.

Washington has tied Mohammed, a chief lieutenant of Osama bin Laden's, to a string of terrorist attacks around the world, including a Philippines-based plot to blow up 12 U.S.-bound commercial airliners in 1996 and last year's Bali bombings that killed more than 200 people.

Even before the grisly tape confirmed Pearl's death, Pakistani authorities captured four men it said were behind the kidnapping — but none of those were believed responsible for slitting the reporter's throat.

Three other men — who police said have provided much detail of the kidnapping and killing — are reportedly being unofficially held by Pakistani authorities.



**Germany's foreign minister was among those taking part in the talks.**

## U.S. wary over nuclear deal

**TEHRAN, Iran** – Iran has agreed to allow tougher U.N. inspections of its nuclear facilities and to suspend its uranium enrichment program, but the U.S. wants to see the words backed by actions.

Top Iranian official Dr. Hassan Rowhani, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, said Iran was voluntarily making the moves to "promote international goodwill, create stability, and put an end to tensions."

Rowhani said that Iran would also cooperate fully with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

He said the suspension of uranium enrichment would begin immediately but that some portions of the plan must be approved by the Iranian parliament. He gave no timetable for when that would happen.

Rowhani made the announcement following a session Tuesday in Iran with French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin, German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, and British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw.

In Singapore, a spokesman for U.S. President George W. Bush said Iran's announcement was "progress," but Iran now had to back up its announcement by signing a formal protocol with the IAEA.

If Iran follows through with its promises, it "would be a positive step in the right direction," *The Associated Press* reports White House press secretary Scott McClellan saying. "Full compliance by Iran will now be essential."

A joint declaration issued following the meeting said: "The Iranian Government has decided to sign the IAEA Additional Protocol and commence ratification procedures. As a confirmation

of its good intentions, the Iranian Government will continue to co-operate with the Agency in accordance with the Protocol in advance of its ratification."

Rowhani was non-committal on how long Iran would maintain its freeze on uranium enrichment, prompting some analysts to suggest Iran was simply playing for time, *Reuters* reports.

"We voluntarily chose to do it, which means it could last for one day or one year, it depends on us," Rowhani told a media conference.

"As long as Iran thinks this suspension is beneficial it will continue, and whenever we don't want it we will end it," *Reuters* reports him saying.

## Jeb orders effort to save brain-damaged woman

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Florida Gov. Jeb Bush ordered a feeding tube reinserted into a brain-damaged woman Tuesday afternoon, less than two hours after the Legislature passed a bill allowing him to do so.

Florida lawmakers gave Bush the authority in an effort to keep Terri Schiavo alive nearly a week after the tube was removed at the request of her husband, Michael, effectively overturning a court ruling that she be allowed to die.

"Like the tens of thousands of Floridians who have raised their voices in support of Terri Schiavo's right to live, I have been deeply moved by these tragic circumstances," Bush said in a statement issued after he signed the bill. "My thoughts and prayers remain with Terri and those who love her."

Michael Schiavo's lawyers filed an emergency injunction Tuesday evening to prevent the re-feeding of his wife. A Pinellas Circuit Court judge has agreed to hear arguments at 8:30 p.m.

Schiavo's attorneys argue that the bill authorizing Bush to reinsert the tube is unconstitutional.

"It violates the separation of powers between the judicial and executive branches," attorney Debbie Bushnell said.

Earlier Tuesday, a judge in Clearwater refused to issue a temporary restraining order that Michael Schiavo's attorneys had sought, saying the filing was made in the wrong jurisdiction.

Schiavo is being cared for at a hospice in Pinellas Park.



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quick meeting arranged by the CA team improved the relationship and acceptability of the American and coalition forces.

"We're not here to change their lifestyle but assist in improving their lifestyle. Wells, schools, and clinics as well as select humanitarian assistance supplies give them back some of the conveniences and freedoms that they were either deprived of or destroyed when the Taliban controlled the area," said Maj. Ray Rivas, Civil Affairs Team engineer. "We are just trying to re-establish the quality of life they once had and to provide hope for future generations of Afghanistan."

In addition to providing medical care, veterinary services, and identifying reconstruction projects, the team also provided preventative medicine services by testing water sources available in each of the villages seen.

Drawing water from the wells and capping the sample in a marked bottle, Sgt. Jason Smith from Fort Polk, Louisiana said, "most problems could be prevented with proper education and hygiene practices."

Across the trail, Maj. Patricia Hall, Female Care Team officer in charge, along with Staff Sgt. Tonya Floyd, Sgt. Shannon Muller, and Spc. Melissa Schroeder provide care and treatment for the women and children of the village. Afghan customs and tradition prevent men from looking at the women let alone examine them for medical treatment. To honor and respect their beliefs and customs, female care providers are permitted to view and assess the care needs of the women and children.

"It is all part of their customs and we want to honor their beliefs. It is a privilege to come to their village and help in any way we can. It really makes you feel good to provide assistance to women, children, or anyone that will

allow us to help them," said Hall.

As the last patient is seen at the clinic and the herds of sheep and goats start to wind down, the team prepares to load up the trucks and move out to their assembly area. At this point, all the children are smiling and excited with the activities that have taken place. The village elders smile and express their gratitude for the assistance that the coalition forces and ANA have brought to their village.

As the vehicles stage and prepare to rollout in convoy order, a smiling ANA soldier shakes the hand of a small boy and taps him on the head. The gesture is a symbolic one as to say "Have faith little guy. This is only the beginning of the good things that are yet to happen". As the soldier mounts the vehicle replacing his green ANA beret with his Kevlar Helmet, the convoy was off with a cloud of dust and a hearty "High Ho Silver, Away" to the next village and activities that lie ahead.

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critical infrastructure against external threats and aggression."

Both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom are part of the homeland defense mission, Verga said. In two short years, the U.S. military has routed the Taliban and freed Afghanistan from an oppressive, autocratic regime.

The U.S. military also has deposed Saddam Hussein, liberating 23 million Iraqis. Both of these operations take the war to the terrorists, Verga said.

"Our principal role in the defense of our nation is to attack the enemies of the United States where they live, as opposed to letting them attack us where we live," he said. "That overseas, worldwide war on terrorism is the department's principal contribution to making the homeland more secure."

Still, he said, the U.S. military has a role in homeland defense, and the department had made changes that made the country more secure even before the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Since Sept. 11, that pace accelerated, he added. The military made changes in the worldwide command structure, most notably establishing the U.S. Northern Command, which went to full operations capability on Sept. 11, 2003. This command unified the three areas of defense of the United States: maritime, air and land.

"For the first time, they are under a single unified commander," Verga said. "The combatant commander is responsible for all three domains." In the past, the North American Aerospace Defense Command — a combined U.S.-Canadian command — managed air defense, and U.S. Joint Forces Command handled land and sea defense.

The other major reorganization was establishing Verga's office. That office formally stood up in March.

"We are charged with the overall supervision of the homeland defense activities of the department, and provide the guidance and policy direction necessary to provide that homeland defense," he said. Former Congressman Paul McHale is the assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense.

**Taking samples**

Photo by Spc. Kelly Hunt

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Quentin Lightbourn**, sanitation engineer for the 407<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion collects water samples from a well in Parwan Province. The water samples will help troops determine purity within the area and understand the sources of diseases in Afghanistan.

## Kabul military officials, government meet with Logar Province leadership

The leadership of Logar Province met with government and military officials from Kabul to discuss the important work of building a secure future for all Afghans Oct. 26.

The people of Logar Province, who desire a stable and prosperous future for their sons and daughters came to hear the words of these trusted leaders.

After a poetic reading from the Holy Koran, Logar Province Deputy Governor Patang welcomed his respected guests who included: Maj. Gen. Mohammed Isaq Noori, Vice Chief of Staff; Moh'd Haref Noorzai, Minister of Boundaries and Tribes; Dr. Suhaila Sediq, Minister of Health; Brig. Gen. Ibrahim, Chief of Military Recruiting for Kabul; and Brigadier General Prasek, Chief of Office of Military Cooperation – Afghanistan.

The officials from Kabul explained what the central government was doing to build a better future for Afghanistan. However, no matter whom the speaker, the message was clear.

The secure future of Afghanistan depends upon a strong National Army devoted to the security of all Afghans: the ANA.

This message was underscored by the enthusiastic speeches of an ANA officer, noncommissioned officer, and soldier. Each one spoke of the many benefits of the ANA.

They spoke of the benefits to them personally, to their families and to the nation. The truth of the message pierced everyone's heart. It was then the Logar Governor Dr. Fazlula Mujadedy approached the podium and made a patriotic announcement promising many new recruits for enlistment in the ANA.

The people of Logar Province responded overwhelmingly to this decision by one of their trusted leaders. They understood the hope it gave them for the future of their sons and daughters. Sayed Mahbobsha, Delegate of the Logar People, and Deputy Governor Patang, rounded out the last of the speakers each assuring the respected guests that they would indeed send the sons of Logar Province to Kabul for enlistment in the ANA as previously pledged by Dr. Mujadedy.

This commitment represents another brick laid in building a secure future for all Afghans.

*(Information provided by a CJTF 180 press release.)*

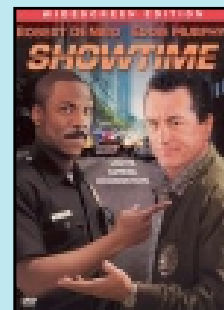
## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

### “Showtime”

1530Z at the MWR building:

DeNiro is L.A.P.D. detective Mitch Preston, a gruff, no-nonsense 28-year veteran whose bust of a drug gang is botched one night by Trey Sellars (Murphy), a bumbling patrolman who's really a frustrated actor at heart.

**Tomorrow's movie:** “Executive Decision”



## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Thursday
<b>Bagram:</b>	Mostly Clear H: 81F L: 41F	Rain H: 72F L: 39F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	Dusty H: 84F L: 46F	Dusty H: 84F L: 46F
<b>Kabul:</b>	Partly Cloudy H: 73F L: 46F	Rain H: 72F L: 48F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	Partly Cloudy H: 74F L: 38F	Partly Cloudy H: 76F L: 42F

*Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team*

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# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *SI.com*)

## Gannon's ailing shoulder may keep him out



*Rich Gannon was hit by Shawn Barber late in the second quarter before being taken out of the game Monday night.*

game in the final seconds.

Callahan praised both Gannon and Tuiasosopo on Tuesday, but said he isn't sure who will be the Raiders' first-stringer when the team returns from its bye week. The Raiders are expected to find out the severity of Gannon's injury on Wednesday.

"I'm not going to make any determination on the quarterback's play until I know about his health situation," Callahan said of Gannon. "This is the league's MVP. I have great respect for him and everything he has done for the team."

After he was sacked by linebacker Shawn Barber on the final play of the first half, Gannon went to the sideline holding his arm. Gannon, 10-of-19 for 58 yards and an interception, received treatment on the sideline while Tuiasosopo played the second half.

"When I tried to throw, I couldn't," Gannon said Monday night.

Tuiasosopo, a seldom-used backup who had just 69 yards passing in his career, rallied the Raiders to three lengthy drives and 10 points in the fourth quarter. But the comeback attempt ended when two Chiefs tackled Tim Brown at the Kansas City 1 as time expired.

## Trial will hinge on testimony of Bryant, accuser

**EAGLE, Colo.** — With many observers and even the judge questioning evidence in the Kobe Bryant case, testimony from the NBA star and the 19-year-old woman accusing him of rape will apparently play a crucial role at trial.

The 25-year-old Bryant is familiar with dealing with the media and has already sat in front of TV cameras and admitted to adultery.

His young accuser, however, will have to discuss graphic details of her encounter with Bryant and be ready for difficult questions from his attorneys. And she may have to do it in front of an international

**ALAMEDA, Calif.** — Rich Gannon underwent tests on his injured shoulder Tuesday, and Oakland Raiders coach Bill Callahan would not guarantee the quarterback's starting job until the results were known.

Gannon, a four-time Pro Bowler and last season's league MVP, was pounded by the Kansas City defense throughout the first half of the Raiders' 17-10 loss to the Chiefs on Monday night.

He was held out of the second half with a bruised right shoulder. Seldom-used backup Marques Tuiasosopo led Oakland on a fourth-quarter rally, nearly tying the

television audience.

"She's had a lot of practice being attacked by the defense already," said Wendy Murphy, a victim's advocate and professor at the New England School of Law. "It helps build thick skin, helps prepare her and limit her anxiety."

Eagle County Judge Frederick Gannett ruled Monday that prosecutors presented enough evidence at Bryant's preliminary hearing to send the case to district court for a potential trial.

But in a nine-page ruling, he said some of the evidence appeared to have questionable value and said prosecutors offered only enough to get the case to trial. Bryant's first appearance in district court is scheduled for Nov. 10.

## Sooners lead first BCS standings; Northern Illinois comes in at No. 10

**NEW YORK** — Oklahoma is in a familiar place — first in the initial Bowl Championship Series standings. The Sooners' task this year is to stay there.

Oklahoma was No. 1 in the first BCS standings for the third straight year, matching the spot it has held in the two major polls all season.

"It's a positive indicator that we've played awfully well for seven games," Sooners coach Bob Stoops said Monday. "We've earned that position and have played well through this part of the season. Now, it's our job to continue it, finish it and keep it."

Miami and Virginia Tech, the other two undefeated teams from major conferences, are second and third.

The BCS standings are used to determine which teams play in a national title game. The teams that finish 1-2 in the final BCS standings on Dec. 7 will play for the title at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans on Jan. 4.

The formula uses the AP media and coaches' polls, seven computer rankings, strength of schedule, losses and a bonus-point system for quality wins.

The Sooners (7-0) have a 1.0 for poll average, 1.33 for computer-rank average, 0.44 for strength of schedule and zero for losses for a 2.77 total. Oklahoma is ranked first in four of computers with Miami the top team in the other three.

The Hurricanes (7-0) have 4.10 points and Virginia Tech (6-0) has 10.23.

"We can't get caught up in anything other than winning our games," Miami coach Larry Coker said. "If we do that, everything will work out as it should."



*Jason White and Oklahoma beat Missouri 34-13 on Saturday to improve to 7-0.*



# Afghanistan Hot Topics



(Compiled by CJTF-180 Public Affairs)

## Taliban commander captured in Afghanistan

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—A senior Taliban commander has been captured by coalition forces in central Afghanistan with the help of Afghan soldiers, a spokesman for the U.S. military headquarters in Bagram said Monday.

Mullah Janan was captured near Deh Rawod in the central province of Uruzgan, Col. Rodney Davis said in a statement.

Janan was observed leaving the area by coalition special operations forces and was captured at an Afghan militia force checkpoint, Davis said. He gave no further details.

Authorities have said a Taliban commander by the same name had close ties with Osama bin Laden and might know of his whereabouts. But the name is not uncommon in Afghanistan and there was no immediate confirmation the man captured was the same.

Davis said the Janan who was captured in Uruzgan is believed responsible for a rocket attack on an American military outpost in Deh Rawod. No damage or casualties were reported in the July attack.

Jan Mohammed Khan, the governor of Uruzgan, confirmed the arrest, saying Janan was “a famous Taliban commander.”

Khan told *The Associated Press* that Janan was captured Saturday with eight other Taliban insurgents during sweeping raids in the Dai Chupan district of the neighboring province of Zabul. The district is tucked in the rugged mountains where Taliban are suspected of hiding.

More than 1,000 Afghan forces from Kandahar, Zabul and Uruzgan took part in the operation, which also included U.S. troops, Khan said, but did not elaborate.

Accounts of battles between suspected Taliban insurgents and Afghan security forces given by government officials are often impossible to confirm independently.

A U.S.-led coalition ousted the hardline Muslim Taliban regime in late 2001 for harboring members of al Qaeda, the terrorist network blamed for the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in America.

In recent weeks, Taliban insurgents are believed to have stepped up attacks against government troops, aid workers and U.S.-led coalition forces, mainly in southern and eastern Afghanistan.

## Ex-Taliban minister has been released

**(BBC)**—A spokesman for President Hamid Karzai in Afghanistan has confirmed that former Taliban Foreign Minister Wakil Ahmad Mutawakil has been released from U.S. custody at Bagram, north of Kabul.

Mr. Mutawakil was the most senior Taliban in custody, and - according to the spokesman is among a number of Taliban who have made proposals of talks to the government.

The spokesman said the government had yet to make up its mind on the offer. Earlier in the month, aides and family members of Mr. Mutawakil said he had been released, although this was denied at the

time by President Karzai.

Mr. Mutawakil is now at an airbase in his home city of Kandahar under U.S. protection. Reports say he asked himself to be put under U.S. protection.

For two years, nothing has been heard from the Taleban except threats and calls for jihad, or holy war.

Now a proposal for talks has come from members of the group, including Mr. Mutawakil.

This is the first ever offer of talks and comes a few weeks after President Karzai repeated an amnesty for all Taliban who do not have innocent blood on their hands.

It also comes as the growing Taliban insurgency in the south means almost daily attacks on aid workers and American and Afghan troops. The presidential spokesman emphasised that no talks had yet taken place.

Clearly the significance of the offer depends on who else is involved, observers say.

Mr. Mutawakil was never a commander, never had armed men of his own and was on the moderate wing of the movement.

It is not known whether any of the radicals currently at war with Mr. Karzai's government are also offering to talk rather than fight.



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By Kevin Kilgore

## Laugh Support